

Hon. Charles Hale, U. S. Consul at Alexandria.

Hon. William Strong, Supreme Court of Penna.

And the Society was adjourned.

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*Stated Meeting, February 2, 1866.*

Present, fifteen members.

Dr. WOOD, President, in the Chair.

Letters accepting membership were received from Mr. George Davidson, dated Germantown, January 25th; from the Hon. William Strong, dated Philadelphia, January 31st; and from Prof. Edward D. Cope, dated Haverford College, January 31st, 1866.

Letters acknowledging publications were received from the Boston Society of Natural History, January 24th and May 1st, 1864; Boston Public Library, January 4th and January 22d, 1866.

Donations were received for the Library from the Royal Astronomical, and British Meteorological Societies, Trübner & Co., and Stevens & Bros., booksellers, London; Prof. Zantedeschi, of Padua; and the Boston S. N. History.

Dr. Coates announced the death of a member, Mr. George Ord, at his residence in Philadelphia, on the 24th inst., aged 85. Mr. Isaac Lea was appointed to prepare an obituary notice of the deceased.

Mr. Fraley announced the death of a member, Judge Oswald Thompson, at Germantown, on the 22d inst., aged 57. Mr. E. K. Price was appointed to prepare an obituary notice of the deceased.

Mr. Dubois exhibited to the Society some specimens of photography, which are chiefly remarkable as being the work of a Siamese artist, *Pra Wisut Yotamad*, a nobleman of high rank, and master of the Royal Mint at Bangkok. He understands no language but that of Siam, and learned the art at home. He has, however, an unusual aptitude for the higher class of mechanical arts, and for experiments in natural philosophy.

The Queen of England having sent a present to the King of Siam, of a photographic apparatus, it was confided to this minister of State, and by the help of a Prussian artist who was on his way to Japan, and also of an English treatise which was read to him by an American missionary, he became acquainted with the principles and practice, and taught them to his son. These pictures are some of his productions. One of them is a portrait of himself, in a costume fitted to a warm climate. They were brought as a present from him, to several of the officers of the United States Mint, in care of Dr. House, returning to this country on a visit.

It is most interesting to observe the march of this admirable art, not waiting for the previous civilization which might seem requisite to give a taste for it, or at least a capacity for using it. But a little reflection will show that its products are exactly fitted to wake up the torpid mind, and to convince even the barbarian, of the intrinsic value of the arts and sciences, and of the social status which produces them.

Mr. P. E. Chase communicated an account of a gas explosion at Haverford College. Prof. Cresson made some remarks to elucidate the explosions which take place from defective gas pipes.

Pending nominations Nos. 541, 547 and 548, were read.

And the Society was adjourned.

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*Stated Meeting, February 16, 1866.*

Present, thirteen members.

Dr. Wood, President, in the Chair.

A letter of acceptance was read from Dr. H. C. Wood, dated Philadelphia, February 5th, 1866.

A letter was read announcing the decease of a member, E. J. Bring, of Lund, dated Stockholm, 27th 11th month, 1865.

A letter desiring exchanges was received from C. H. Hart, Corresponding Secretary of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia, which Society was, on motion,